

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NIC-01 ACDA-19 MBFR-04 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SIL-01 IO-15 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /167 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7718

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH-GERMAN LABOR TALKS AND INVOLVEMENT
OF TURKISH WORKERS IN RECENT WILD CAT STRIKES

REF: ANKARA 7421

1. SUMMARY. THE GERMAN DGB AND THE TURKISH TRADE
UNION CENTER TUERK-IS REVIEWED RECENTLY IN NUERNBERG
LABOR PROBLEMS INVOLVING TURKISH WORKERS IN GERMANY
INCLUDING THE INVOLVEMENT OF TURKISH WORKERS IN RECENT
WILD-CAT STRIKES. AFTER THIS MEETING, DGB ADVISED
AFFILIATED UNIONS TO STEP UP BARGAINING FOR EXTENDED
LEAVE WITHOUT PAY FOR FOREIGN WORKERS AND FOR REDUCTION
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IN THE SPEED OF ASSEMBLY LINE WORK AND TO EXPAND THE

DGB'S COUNSELING SERVICES FOR FOREIGN WORKERS IN PROCESSING THEIR GRIEVANCES AND IN ASSISTING THEM IN THEIR WORK AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS. IN ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT, THE COLOGNE CITY ADMINISTRATION MOVED TO REPATRIATE BAHHA TARGUEN WHO WAS ONE OF THE TURKISH LEADERS INVOLVED IN THE WILD-CAT STRIKE AT THE FORD AUTOMOBILE ASSEMBLY PLANT IN COLOGNE. END SUMMARY

2. IN ONE OF THEIR PERIODIC MEETINGS, REPRESENTATIVES OF TUERK-IS AND THE DGB MET IN NUERNBERG RECENTLY TO REVIEW CURRENT PROBLEMS OF TURKISH WORKERS IN THE FRG. THE TURKISH DELEGATION INCLUDED ITS PRESIDENT DEMIRSOY AND SECRETARY GENERAL TUNC, WHILE THE DGB DELEGATION WAS LET BY DGB EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FRANZ WOSCHECH. AMONG THE PROBLEMS DISCUSSED WAS THE RECENT TURKISH INVOLVEMENT IN GERMAN WILD-CAT STRIKES. DGB SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE DGB AND TUERK-IS WERE CRITICAL OF FORD'S TREATMENT OF TURKISH WORKERS AND CALLED FOR DGB ACTION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO TURKISH WORKERS WHO HAD BEEN DISMISSED FOR REPORTING BACK TO WORK LATE AFTER THE END OF THE VACATIONPERIOD. THE DGB ALSO RECOMMENDED TO ITS AFFILIATED UNIONS THAT THEY STEP UP BARGAINING EFFORTS FOR LEAVE WITHOUT PAY TO FOREIGN WORKERS AND FOR REDUCTION OF ASSEMBLY LINE SPEED AND THAT THEY INCREASE THEIR COUNSELING AND SOCIAL SERVICES WITH INTERPRETERS AND COUNSELORS TRAINED IN TURKISH OR OTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGES TO ASSIST FOREIGN WORKERS IN RESOLVING THEIR WORKING AND LIVING PROBLEMS IN GERMANY.

3. DURING THIS MEETING, GERMAN AND TURKISH RADICAL GROUPS, WHICH HAD PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN PROVOKING THE WILD-CAT STRIKE AT FORD, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 14. THIS SMALL RADICAL GROUP OF GERMANS AND TURKS WHO HAD BEEN DISMISSED BY FORD ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF A FORD SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE LED BY A TURK BAHHA TARGUEN AND A GERMAN FRANK KUEHN. THEY CALLED FOR FURTHER STRIKES AT THE FORD PLANT UNLESS MANAGEMENT REHIRED THE DISMISSED WORKERS. THE MAOIST-LINE COMMUNIST KPD ANNOUNCED PLANS TO COLLECT MONEY FOR ASSIST-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ANCE TO DISMISSED TURKS AND THE FORD SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE ALSO SPONSORED A STREE DEMONSTRATION IN COLOGNE ON SEPTEMBER 15 IN COOPERATION WITH THE SOVIET-LINE COMMUNIST DKP AND THE KPD.

4. ALTHOUGH DENYING ANY CONNECTION WITH THE FORD DISPUTE, THE COLOGNE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER FOR RESIDENCE PERMITS ANNOUNCED ON SEPTEMBER 26 THAT BAHHA

TARGUEN, THE 30-YEAR OLD TURKISH LEADER OF THE FORD WILD-CAT STRIKE, WOULD BE REPATRIATED TO TURKEY ON GROUNDS THAT HE HAD ILLEGALLY ENTERED THE FRG AND LACKED THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION ISSUED BY THE GERMAN FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE LIAISON OFFICE IN TURKEY. APPARENTLY TARGUEN CAME TO THE FRG AS A STUDENT IN AUGUST 1969 AND LIVED IN AACHEN. IN 1970 HE MOVED TO COLOGNE WHERE HE WAS ALSO GRANTED A RESIDENCE PERMIT WHICH EXPIRED ON AUGUST 6. AFTER HOME LEAVE IN TURKEY, HE RETURNED TO COLOGNE ALLEGEDLY WITH AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WITH FORD,

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BUT WAS REFUSED RENEWAL OF HIS EXPIRED RESIDENCE PERMIT
AND WAS REQUESTED BY THE COLOGNE RESIDENCE PERMIT

OFFICE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY BY SEPTEMBER 26. COLOGNE
AUTHORITIES COMMENTED TO THE PRESS THAT HE WOULD NEED
PROPER DOCUMENTATION FROM THE GERMAN FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT
SERVICE IN TURKEY BEFORE HE COULD RETURN AGAIN.
HOWEVER, THE REPATRIATION DECISION IS BEING APPEALED
IN THE GERMAN ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS.

5. COMMENT. THE ABOVE DEVELOPMENTS FOLLOWED A 7-DAY
WILD-CAT STRIKE AT THE FORD PLANT IN COLOGNE, WHICH
INVOLVED CLASHES AND VIOLENCE BETWEEN GERMANS WILLING
TO WORK AND WILD-CAT STRIKES OF GERMANS AND SOME TURKS
LED BY KPD AGITATORS. THE COLOGNE POLICE SUPPRESSED
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THESE RIOTS AND ARRESTED THE 11 RING LEADERS. LATER
FORD DISMISSED THE GERMAN AND TURKISH RING LEADERS OF
THIS STRIKE. THE GERMAN DGB METALWORKERS UNION
DISASSOCIATED ITSELF FROM THIS STRIKE AND CONDEMNED THE
AGITATION OF EXTREMIST KPD ORGANISORS. ALTHOUGH THE
WORKS COUNCIL OF FORD AND THE METALWORKERS UNION WERE
NOT INVOLVED AT FIRST IN THE STRIKE, THEY NEGOTIATED A
SUPPLEMENTARY ALLOWNACE OF DM 280 TO COMPENSATE FOR
COST OF LIVING INCREASES AND FOR WAGE LOSSES DURING
THE STRIKE AS WELL AS A REVIEW OF COMPANY DISMISSAL
OF TURKISH WORKERS FOR NOT RETURNING FROM VACATION ON
TIME, AS A BASIS FOR FORD WORKERS TO RETURN TO
THEIR JOBS. END COMMENT
CASH

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